

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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May 1, 2015

General Assembly enters final month leading up to scheduled adjournment

The scheduled adjournment date of May 31 for the Illinois General Assembly, assumes the development and enactment of the FY 16 budget by that date. In the remaining four weeks, deadline dates also have been set for getting other non-budget related legislation enacted. May 8 has been set by the House for Senate bills to be considered by House committees. The Senate deadline for House bills to be considered by Senate Committees is May 15. Friday May 22 is the scheduled deadline for final consideration of substantive bills in both chambers. Budget work sessions have gotten underway, including discussions with appropriation committees leaders and the Governor's budget staff.

Civil rights update from USDOE

The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has issued a [guidance package](#) emphasizing the responsibility of districts, colleges, and universities to designate a Title IX coordinator. The package also contains an overview of the law's requirements in key areas, including athletics, single-sex education, sex-based harassment, and discipline. Title IX of the *Education Amendments of 1972* prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in all education programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance.

The package includes three documents:

- A [Dear Colleague Letter](#) to districts, colleges, and universities reminding them of their obligation to designate a Title IX coordinator.
- A [letter to Title IX coordinators](#) that provides them more information about their important role.
- A [Title IX resource guide](#) that includes an overview of Title IX's requirements in several key areas.

The OCR also released a [report](#) of its Fiscal Year 2013-14 activities, highlighting continued efforts to protect civil rights and advance equity in schools.

[ISAC Student Portal](#)

The new ISAC Student Portal offers free best-in-class applications and tools to help students and families make smart college choices, navigate the financial aid process, learn about careers, and manage their money—all in one place. Through Student Portal partner Cappex®, students can review thousands of college profiles and learn of chances of acceptance, instantly search for billions of dollars in scholarships, and organize college admission and scholarship applications. Students will have access to: tips on how to stretch their student dollar using SALT™ Money, which includes free online money lessons; ways to learn how to borrow less, borrow smart, and repay student loans; and online forums to get real-world money advice. The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) Illinois Career Information System allows students to explore careers and salaries, and search for jobs. In addition, the Portal provides interactive tools like the 4 Steps to College Checklist and the Monetary Award Program (MAP) Estimator, to help students determine their potential eligibility for MAP funding. Visit the ISAC Student Portal at: www.isac.org/studentportal

UPCOMING

MAY

5 [Senate Higher Education Committee](#), Room 212, Capitol

31 Scheduled adjournment of the 99th Illinois General Assembly

JUNE

2 [IBHE meeting](#), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign,

[College Illinois!® enrollment period extended through June 1st](#)

Illinois families looking to find an affordable way to start tackling the costs of college will have an additional month to take advantage of 2014-15 reduced pricing on the purchase of [College Illinois!®](#) Prepaid Tuition Program contracts. The state's only 529 prepaid tuition program, College Illinois! offers families a way to "freeze" the cost of tuition by prepaying for future college tuition at today's contract rates. With pricing on all contracts reduced, some by as much as 29%, families now have through June 1st to start planning for their child or grandchild's future for as little as \$21 a month.

The 2014-15 enrollment period opened over a month later than during the past several enrollment periods, in order to implement the price reductions. With numerous opportunities to reach out to potential contract holders coming later in the enrollment period, the extension through June 1st will allow more families an opportunity to learn about the program, take the time they need to make an enrollment decision, and take advantage of reduced pricing to start planning for the cost of college as early as possible. Find out more at www.collegeillinois.org

[Improving Teacher Quality State Grants present best practices](#)

Looking ahead to the capstone year of the federally funded program NCLB – Improving Teacher Quality State Grant (ITQ), IBHE along with the Center for the Study of Education Policy at Illinois State University hosted a conference on March 5 in Normal. The ITQ program supports professional development activities to assist schools in increasing the academic achievement of all students through the preparation of highly-qualified, effective teachers and school leaders. Each of the seven projects attending presented a best practice from their project on one of three symposium priorities: 1) Evaluation Capacity Building; 2) Continuing Standards Alignment; and 3) Sustainability. An important goal for projects in the capstone year is continuing to develop assessment and evaluation by school and district partners with a focus on formative assessments.

Several projects' delegations included teachers and school and district leaders. Among these were three teachers from the Roosevelt University project, and they shared their teaching experiences and insights from ITQ grant activities. Pictured from (left to right) are: Andrea Davis, who teaches third grade and Tiffany Robinson, a middle school bi-lingual special education teacher, and Donna Murphy, who teaches kindergarten. Ms. Davis and Ms. Robinson both teach at Orville T. Bright Elementary School in Chicago. Ms. Murphy teaches at Christ the King School in Chicago.



The Illinois Education Research Council announces the call for proposals for its 13th annual *Focus on Illinois Education Research Symposium* October 8 & 9 in Lisle, IL. The Symposium provides a unique forum for the discussion of educational issues of interest to the Illinois community for education policy makers, researchers, and practitioners from the state and beyond. The call for proposals is [here](#) and closes on **June 19, 2015**.

[Second Annual International Forum on Globalizing Career Technology Education](#) **Monday, June 22-24, 2015**

Co-sponsored by ECC and Rongzhi College of Chongqing Technology & Business University

Registration website: <http://elgin.edu/news.aspx?id=20817>

Keynote speaker: Mr. Siva Yam, President of U.S.-China Chamber of Commerce

Registration fee: \$50

People in the News

[Dr. John Erwin](#) retires as the College's fourth president, effective today, May 1. Erwin served as president since January 1, 2001. "I have enjoyed my time at Illinois Central College these past 14 years," Erwin said. "I appreciate the support I have received from my Board of Trustees, our staff and faculty, our students, and our community. I am especially grateful for the generosity our many donors to the ICC Educational Foundation have shown. I am confident in the skills and dedication of the current Cabinet leadership to continue to move the College forward, serving our students and community." ICC's Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet on May 4 and it is anticipated the Board will then consider options for the future leadership of the college.

Kaskaskia College has announced that [Dr. Penny Quinn](#) of Pawnee Rock, Kansas has been named the next President of Kaskaskia College. Dr. Quinn will replace Dr. Jim Underwood who will be retiring June 30, 2015. Dr. Quinn is currently serving as College Vice President of Barton Community College in Great Bend, Kansas. She has twenty-five years of experience in public higher education and twenty-three years in the community college system serving as an instructor, department chair, director of student retention, honor program director, federal grant coordinator, and academic and student services. She has demonstrated success in collaborative guiding management, servant leadership, strategic planning, program development, budgetary management and enrollment management. Quinn received her bachelor's degree from Indiana State University, a master's degree from Washington State University and her doctorate degree from Indiana State University.

Governor Bruce Rauner has appointed City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) **Chancellor Cheryl Hyman** to the Illinois Community College Board. In addition to her work as a community college administrator, she is a graduate of Olive Harvey College, a unit of CCC, bringing a dual perspective to the board. Hyman went on to earn a bachelor's degree in computer science from the Illinois Institute of Technology. She holds a master's degree from North Park University and an Executive Masters of Business Administration from Northwestern University. As chancellor, Hyman has led a reinvention initiative to ensure all CCC students are prepared for further education and careers. Prior to her work with CCC, Hyman was the Vice President of Operations Strategy and Business Intelligence at ComEd. Hyman is also a board member of Complete College America, an organization that works to improve college graduation rates.

Campus News

U of I Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol



Thirty undergraduates from all three University of Illinois campuses, UIC, UIS, and UIUC, came to the Capitol in Springfield on April 30 to present their research to lawmakers and members of the public to demonstrate the importance of undergraduate student research. Students were selected in a competitive process by the Undergraduate Research Steering Committee.

UIS Chancellor Susan J. Koch speaks with UIS legal studies and political science major Taylor Traynoff about her presentation titled "More than Just Grunge: The Fashions of the Girl Power Movement of the 1990s."

Madigan brings Sexual Assault Summit to SIUE Campus

Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan continued a statewide tour with a stop on April 27 at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) to generate support for more stringent efforts to prevent campus sexual assaults. The summit was titled "Strengthening Campus Responses to Sexual Violence." More than 100 representatives from regional universities and colleges, and law enforcement agencies attended. Madigan is promoting the legislative proposal, [HB 821](#) sponsored by Rep. Michelle Mussman and Senator Toi Hutchinson, "Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act." The bill would require Illinois higher education institutions to adopt comprehensive policies concerning sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.

News from Higher Education

College for the masses (The New York Times)

Growing up in Miami in the 1990s, Carlos Escanilla was a lot more interested in hanging out with friends and playing music than in school.

MAP grants already received are safe, commission says (Herald & Review)

No college or university student who already received a grant from the Monetary Award Program for this school year will have to give that money back as a result of a late fiscal year budget fix, according to a spokeswoman for the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, which oversees the program.

After the collapse (Inside Higher Ed)

Amid the fallout of more than 16,000 students shut out by Corinthian Colleges' closure, institutions from California to New York are teaming up with the U.S. Department of Education to help keep those students on track toward completing college.

Common Core gets a footing (Inside Higher Ed)

The much-debated Common Core State Standards and the assessments that accompany them are designed to prove high school graduates are ready for a rigorous college curriculum.

Lake Land, Eastern Illinois boards hold joint session (Journal Gazette & Times-Courier)

The boards of two of the biggest employers in East Central Illinois from Eastern Illinois University and Lake Land College gathered for a joint meeting of their boards in Lake Land's Webb Hall to discuss present and potential future partnerships between the two schools.

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